

Message Text

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S E C R E T USUN 5171

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, UN, XF

SUBJ: MIDDLE EAST: UN ATMOSPHERICS

1. AT REQUEST OF SYG WALDHEIM, USYG GUYER AND ASYG URQUHART ASKED AMB SCHAUFLE TO CALL UPON THEM AFTERNOON NOV 27 TO DISCUSS PROBLEMS UN HAVING WITH NON-ALIGNED AND OTHERS ON ME QUESTIONS. THEY MADE STRONG APPEAL FOR US ASSISTANCE IN HELPING THEM PREVENT NON-ALIGNED FROM SEEKING SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING AND DE FACTO ROLE IN MIDDLE EAST PEACE CONFERENCE.

2. IN RESPONSE TO NON-ALIGNED PRESSURE TO KEEP INFORMED ON MIDDLE EAST SITUATION SYG WALDHEIM HAS BEEN HOLDING WEEKLY MEETINGS TO GIVE THEM SELECTED INFORMATION. ACCORDING TO GUYER AND URQUHART, AS LONG AS HE CAN GIVE THEM SOME INFORMATION AND THEY ARE NOT TOO DISTURBED BY PRESS REPORTS, SYG HAS BEEN ABLE TO SATISFY THEIR DEMANDS, PARTICULARLY IN MEETING YESTERDAY FOLLOWING HIS MEETING WITH SECRETARY NOV 23.

3. NEVERTHELESS NON-ALIGNED, LED BY YUGOSLAV PERMREP MOJSOV AND FREQUENTLY SECONDED BY INDIAN PERMREP SEN, ARE IN CONSTANT MOVEMENT SEEKING WAYS TO INJECT UN AND THEMSELVES INTO PROCESS. AT NOV 26 MEETING, FOR INSTANCE, MOJSOV STRONGLY SUGGESTED THAT SC SHOULD MEET TO DISCUSS CURRENT SITUATION AND UPCOMING PEACE CONFERENCE. WHEN HE LEFT MEETING EARLY, SEN, WHILE DOWN-PLAYING NECESSITY

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OF MEETING, SUGGESTED THAT NON-ALIGNED MIGHT FORM ADVISORY GROUP TO SYG ON MIDDLE EAST AND ULTIMATELY ACCOMPANY HIM TO GENEVA.

4. AT SAME TIME BRITISH AND FRENCH WHO SEE SYG SEPARATELY ALSO PUTTING CERTAIN AMOUNT OF PRESSURE ON SYG FOR UN INVOLVEMENT ALTHOUGH FRENCH ARE MUCH MORE INSISTENT THAN BRITISH.

5. EVEN SOVIET PERMREP MALIK RAISED SAME QUESTIONS. GUYER SAID THAT ON THE BASIS OF SECRETARY'S CONVERSATION WITH WALDHEIM US OBVIOUSLY IN CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH SOVIETS AND SUGGESTED THAT MALIK NEEDS STRONG TELEGRAM FROM MOSCOW TO KEEP HIM FROM ROCKING BOAT IN NEW YORK.

6. ESSENTIALLY BOTH MEN SUGGESTED THAT US FEED SELECTED INFORMATION TO THEM WHICH THEY CAN USE IN KEEPING NON-ALIGNED AND POSSIBLY OTHERS FROM KICKING OVER THE TRACES AND COMPLICATING THE PROCESS CULMINATING IN THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

7. AT SAME TIME THEY NOTED SYG GETTING INCREASING NUMBER OF INQUIRIES ABOUT HIS OWN ROLE IN PEACE CONFERENCE, AND HE IS VERY UPSET BY REFERENCES IN ISRAELI PRESS TO THE EFFECT THAT HE WILL BE ONLY AN OBSERVER. FYI: SYG IS EXTREMELY SUSCEPTIBLE TO THIS KIND OF REPORTING AND TENDS TO SHOOT FROM THE HIP WHEN HIS OWN IMPORTANCE OR THAT OF THE UN APPEARS TO BE DOWN-GRADED BY ANY GOVERNMENT. END FYI. AMONG SPECIFIC QUESTIONS THAT COME UP ARE SITE OF CONFERENCE, I.E. PALAIS DES NATIONS OR ELSEWHERE IN GENEVA; PRESIDING OFFICER; PROCEDURE WHICH IS EXPECTED TO BE FOLLOWED, ETC.

8. SYG IS VERY SENSITIVE ABOUT "HUMILIATION" HE SUFFERED AT PARIS CONFERENCE ON VIETNAM WHICH IN TURN MAKES HIM UNEASY ABOUT HIS ROLE IN ME PEACE TALKS. UN HAS BEEN SEIZED OF ME SITUATION SINCE 1947 AND SC RESES 338, 339 AND 340 ARE BASED ON SC RES 242. THEREFORE IT HAS LEGITIMATE AND IMPORTANT INVOLVEMENT IN ME AS OPPOSED TO VIETNAM.

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9. SCHAUFEELE SAID THAT HE EXPECTED THAT THE MAJOR WORK OF ANY CONFERENCE WOULD NOT BE ACCOMPLISHED IN PLENARY MEETINGS BUT IN BILATERAL AND OTHER TALKS AND NEGOTIATIONS. HE WONDERED WHETHER USG DISCUSSIONS WITH SELECTED NON-ALIGNED AMBASSADORS IN WASHINGTON, ESPECIALLY FROM THOSE COUNTRIES WHOSE PERMREPS ARE MOST INSISTENT HERE, MIGHT BE OF SOME USE. GUYER AND URQUHART THOUGHT THAT THEY WOULD BE.

10. GUYER SUGGESTED THAT USUN MEET REGULARLY WITH HIM OR SYG TO PROVIDE KIND OF INFORMATION WHICH CAN BE USED TO CALM THE ACTIVIST INSTINCTS OF MOJSOV, SEN AND OTHERS.

11. COMMENT: FROM OUR VANTAGE POINT UN OFFICIALS HAVE

EVERY REASON TO BE UNEASY ABOUT NON-ALIGNED POTENTIAL FOR MUDDYING THE WATERS. THIS APPLIES ALMOST EQUALLY TO FRANCE, WHOSE PERMREP FOLLOWED SCHAUFLE INTO GUYER'S OFFICE, BUT LESS SO TO BRITISH. SOVIETS, IN ABSENCE OF SHORT LEASH FROM MOSCOW, CAN BE EXPECTED ENCOURAGE THEM. FYI: GUYER REMARKED THAT BYELORUSSIAN REPLACEMENT OF YUGOSLAVIA WILL REMOVE MOST PRO-SOVIET SC NON-PERM MEMBER. END FYI. AUSTRIAN PERMREP JANKOWITSCH HAS TOLD AMB BENNETT THAT MOJSOV IS EXTREMELY EXCITED ABOUT MIDDLE EAST AND IS NOW MORE UNCONTROLLABLE IN HIS ACTIONS AND UTTERANCES THAN HE HAS EVER SEEN HIM. HE ALSO COMMENTED THAT MOJSOV IS INCREASINGLY PRO-SOVIET IN HIS ATTITUDES.

12. ADMITTEDLY WALDHEIM, GUYER AND URQUHART ALL HAVE SELF-INTEREST IN INVOLVING UN IN ME SETTLEMENT IN ORDER ENHANCE ITS (AND THEIR) AUTHORITY, PRESTIGE AND EFFECTIVENESS. THE GREATER SENSE OF PARTICIPATION WHICH WALDHEIM HAS THE MORE HE WILL BE WILLING AND ABLE TO HOLD OFF NON-ALIGNED IN THEIR EFFORTS TO INSERT THEMSELVES OR UN AS A BODY INTO ME SETTLEMENT IN UNCONSTRUCTIVE WAY.

13. THEREFORE WE BELIEVE THAT UN IDEA HAS MERIT IF WE TO GET THROUGH THE NEXT FEW WEEKS WITHOUT INCIDENT WHICH COULD COMPLICATE ME PICTURE. RECOMMEND THAT DEPT PROVIDE US WITH APPROPRIATE INFO TO PASS TO SYG (IN FOLLOW-UP TO HIS NOV 23 MEETING WITH SECRETARY) TO HELP HIM RESIST PRESSURES FROM NON-ALIGNED FOR ACTION WHICH COULD BE HARMFUL TO PROJECTED SCENARIO. THIS ESPECIALLY
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IMPORTANT AS WE BEGIN HERE TO GET FEEDBACK FROM REPORTED US APPROACHES TO PARTIES IN CAPITALS.

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